

USDA 2007 FARM BILL FORUM in NEBRASKA

Sept. 15, 2005

Please respond to the following six questions. Space permits (below or reverse side) to respond, or add your own comments about other 2007 farm bill suggestions.

- 1) How should farm policy address any unintended consequences and ensure that such consequences do not discourage new farmers/ranchers and the next generation of farmers/ranchers from entering production agriculture?

New generation farmers will be willing to farm if the costs are reasonable to the prices they get for their products.

- 2) How should farm policy be designed to maximize U.S. competitiveness and our country's ability to effectively compete in global markets?

Mandate inspections to export quality products. Deal directly with overseas customers like we did with Cuba. Leave out "middle men."

- 3) How should farm policy be designed to effectively and fairly distribute assistance to producers?

Why not go back to acreage controls? so that the small farmer can operate at profit. Corporate farms, if in control will escalate food prices.

- 4) How can farm policy best achieve conservation and environmental goals?

Pay for conservation practices.

- 5) How can Federal rural and farm programs provide effective assistance in rural areas?

Loan rates should be raised to parity levels (or such levels) that would be in line with the rising costs of taxes, fertilizers, seed and fuel and energy so that farmers can continue to farm at a reasonable profit not a loss.

- 6) How should agricultural product development, marketing and research-related issues be addressed in the next farm bill?

Hold down the costs of development and research, which are getting too much funding.

The public is welcome to submit their comments via the USDA Farm Bill Forums website at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill> or by mailing comments to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns, Farm Bill, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20250-3355. Comments should be submitted by Dec. 30, 2005.

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(Also sent payments to larger corporate families)

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